
IMPORTANT

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If you have sold or transferred all your shares in CNOOC Limited you should at once pass this document to the purchaser or to the bank, stockbroker or other agent through whom the sale was effected for transmission to the purchaser.

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CNOOC Limited
(中國海洋石油有限公司)

(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability under the Companies Ordinance)
(Stock Code: 00883)

**EXPLANATORY STATEMENT RELATING TO THE
PROPOSED GENERAL MANDATES TO ISSUE SHARES AND
BUY BACK SHARES
AND
PROPOSED RE-ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

A notice convening an annual general meeting of CNOOC Limited (the “Company”) to be held on 26 May 2016 at 3:30 p.m. at Island Shangri-La Hotel Hong Kong, Pacific Place, Supreme Court Road, Central, Hong Kong, is set out on pages 145 to 150 of the annual report of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2015 and also in Appendix II to this circular. Whether or not you intend to attend such meeting, please complete and return the form of proxy in accordance with the instructions printed thereon as soon as possible, and in any event not less than 36 hours before the time appointed for holding of the meeting or any adjournment thereof (as the case may be), if they do not intend to be present in person at the meeting. Completion and return of the form of proxy will not preclude shareholders from attending and voting at the meeting or any adjournment thereof if they so wish and, in such event, the relevant form of proxy shall be deemed to be revoked.

6 April 2016

LETTER FROM THE BOARD



CNOOC Limited
(中國海洋石油有限公司)

(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability under the Companies Ordinance)
(Stock Code: 00883)

Executive Directors

Li Fanrong
Wu Guangqi

Non-executive Directors

Yang Hua (*Chairman*)
Lv Bo

Independent Non-executive Directors

Chiu Sung Hong
Lawrence J. Lau
Tse Hau Yin, Aloysius
Kevin G. Lynch

Registered office:

65th Floor, Bank of China
Tower 1 Garden Road
Central
Hong Kong

6 April 2016

To the Shareholders

Dear Sir or Madam,

**EXPLANATORY STATEMENT RELATING TO THE
PROPOSED GENERAL MANDATES TO ISSUE SHARES AND
BUY BACK SHARES
AND
PROPOSED RE-ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to provide you with information in connection with the proposed ordinary resolutions set out as items A3-A7 and B1-B3 of the notice of annual general meeting for the approval of, amongst others, the grant of the general mandates for issue Shares and buy back Shares (as defined hereinafter) and the re-election of retiring directors at the annual general meeting of the Company to be held at Island Shangri-La

LETTER FROM THE BOARD

Hotel Hong Kong, Pacific Place, Supreme Court Road, Central, Hong Kong on 26 May 2016 at 3:30 p.m. (the “Annual General Meeting”). References in this document to “Shares” are to share(s) of all classes in the number of issued shares of the Company.

PROPOSED GENERAL MANDATES TO ISSUE SHARES AND BUY BACK SHARES

At the annual general meeting of the Company held on 21 May 2015, ordinary resolutions were passed granting general mandates to the directors of the Company (the “Directors”), inter alia, (i) to buy back Shares the aggregate number of which shall not exceed 10% of the total number of issued shares of the Company as at 21 May 2015; (ii) to issue, allot and deal with additional Shares the aggregate number of which shall not exceed 20% of the total number of issued shares of the Company as at 21 May 2015; and (iii) extend the general mandate granted to the Directors to issue, allot and deal with such number of Shares the aggregate number of which shall not exceed the aggregate number of Shares bought back, which shall not exceed 10% of the total number of issued shares of the Company as at 21 May 2015 (collectively referred to as the “Existing General Mandates”).

The Existing General Mandates will lapse at the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting. Accordingly, new general mandates to issue shares and buy back Shares, respectively, as set out as ordinary resolutions in the notice of the Annual General Meeting, are now proposed to be granted. The Directors, at the date hereof, have no immediate plans to buy back any Shares or to issue any new Shares pursuant to the relevant mandates.

In relation to the general mandate for the issuance and allotment of Shares (“Share Issue Mandate”), on 30 March 2016, being the latest practicable date before printing of this document for ascertaining certain information for the purpose of inclusion in this document (the “Latest Practicable Date”), 44,647,455,984 Shares were in issue and fully paid. Assuming that there are no changes from the Latest Practicable Date to the date of the Annual General Meeting in the Company’s issued and fully paid share capital and subject to the passing of the ordinary resolution approving the Share Issue Mandate, the maximum number of Shares that may be issued by the Company will be 8,929,491,196 Shares.

The explanatory statement, as required by The Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the “Listing Rules”) to be sent to the shareholders of the Company (the “Shareholders”) in connection with the proposed general mandates to issue shares and buy back Shares, is set out in Appendix I to this document. The explanatory statement contains all information reasonably necessary to enable the Shareholders to make an informed decision on whether to vote for or against the relevant resolutions at the Annual General Meeting.

LETTER FROM THE BOARD

PROPOSED RE-ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Pursuant to Article 97 of the Articles of Association of the Company (the “Articles”), Mr. Li Fanrong, Mr. Lv Bo and Mr. Chiu Sung Hong will retire from office at the Annual General Meeting and, being eligible for re-election, Mr. Li Fanrong, Mr. Lv Bo and Mr. Chiu Sung Hong have been recommended by the board of directors of the Company (the “Board”) and have offered themselves for re-election.

Mr. Chiu Sung Hong (“Mr. Chiu”) who has served as an Independent Non-executive Director of the Company for over nine years, will retire from office and being eligible for re-election at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting of the Company to be held on 26 May 2016. Mr. Chiu has thorough understanding of the Company’s operations and business. As an Independent Non-executive Director, Mr. Chiu has expressed objective views and given valuable independent guidance to the Company over the years. He is currently the chairman of the remuneration committee and a member of the audit committee, and has served as the chairman of the independent board committee in connection with the connected transactions entered into by the Company and its subsidiaries. Mr. Chiu has continued to demonstrate firm commitments to his role. Mr. Chiu has never been engaged in any executive management of the Group. The Board has received from Mr. Chiu a confirmation of independence according to Rule 3.13 of the Listing Rules. Despite Mr. Chiu has served as an Independent Non-executive Director of the Company for over nine years, taking into consideration of the above and the independent natures of Mr. Chiu’s role and duties in the past years, the Board considers that the long service of Mr. Chiu would not diminish his independence and affect his exercise of independent judgment and is satisfied that Mr. Chiu has the required character, integrity, experience and independence to continue fulfilling the role of independent non-executive director. Further, given Mr. Chiu’s extensive knowledge, expertise and experience, the Board considers the re-election of Mr. Chiu as independent non-executive director is in the best interest of the Company and shareholders as a whole.

Details of such Directors required to be disclosed under the Listing Rules are set out in Appendix II to this circular.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

A notice convening the Annual General Meeting is set out on pages 145 to 150 of the annual report of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2015 and also in Appendix II to this circular.

There is no Shareholder who is materially interested in the proposed resolutions regarding the granting of general mandates to issue and buy back Shares, and therefore none of the Shareholders is required to abstain from voting in respect of such resolutions.

Pursuant to Rule 13.39(4) of the Listing Rules, at any general meeting of the Company, a resolution put to the vote of the meeting shall be taken by poll, other than resolution which relates purely to a procedural or administrative matter which may be decided by the chairman in good faith to be voted by a show of hands.

LETTER FROM THE BOARD

A form of proxy for use at the Annual General Meeting is enclosed. Shareholders are requested to complete the form of proxy and return it to the registered office of the Company at 65th Floor, Bank of China Tower, 1 Garden Road, Central, Hong Kong in accordance with the instructions printed on it not less than 36 hours before the time appointed for the holding of the meeting or any adjournment thereof (as the case may be), if they do not intend to be present in person at the meeting. Completion and return of the form of proxy will not preclude Shareholders from attending and voting at the meeting or any adjournment thereof if they so wish and, in such event, the relevant form of proxy shall be deemed to be revoked.

RECOMMENDATION

The Directors believe that the granting of the general mandates to issue and buy back Shares and the re-election of the said Directors are in the best interests of the Company and the Shareholders as a whole, and accordingly recommend the Shareholders to vote in favour of all the relevant resolutions to be proposed at the Annual General Meeting.

Yours faithfully,
For and on behalf of the Board
CNOOC Limited
Yang Hua
Chairman

APPENDIX I EXPLANATORY NOTES TO BUY BACK MANDATE

The following is the explanatory notes required to be sent to the Shareholders under the Listing Rules in connection with the proposed general mandate for buy back Shares and also constitutes the memorandum required under section 239 of the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622 of the Laws of Hong Kong) (the “Companies Ordinance”).

GENERAL MANDATE TO BUY BACK SHARES

At the Annual General Meeting, an ordinary resolution will be proposed to give the Directors a general and an unconditional mandate (the “Share Buy-back Mandate”) to exercise all the powers of the Company to buy back on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the “Stock Exchange”) the issued and fully paid Shares. Under the Share Buy-back Mandate, the number of Shares that the Company may buy back shall not exceed 10% of total number of issued Shares as at the date of passing the resolution.

Shareholders should note that the Share Buy-back Mandate covers buy-backs made only during the period ending on the earlier of the conclusion of the next annual general meeting of the Company and the date upon which such authority is revoked or varied.

SHARE CAPITAL

As at the Latest Practicable Date, 44,647,455,984 Shares were in issue and fully paid. Assuming that there are no changes from the Latest Practicable Date to the date of the Annual General Meeting in the Company’s issued and fully paid share capital and subject to the passing of the ordinary resolution approving the Share Buy-back Mandate, the maximum number of Shares that may be bought back by the Company pursuant to the Share Buy-back Mandate will be 4,464,745,598 Shares.

DIRECTORS AND CONNECTED PERSONS

None of the Directors nor, to the best of the knowledge and belief of the Directors having made all reasonable enquiries, any of their respective close associates (as defined under the Listing Rules) has a present intention, in the event that the Share Buy-back Mandate is approved by the Shareholders, to sell Shares to the Company or its subsidiaries.

No persons who are core connected persons (as defined under the Listing Rules) have notified the Company that they have a present intention to sell Shares to the Company or have undertaken not to sell any of the Shares held by them to the Company, in the event that the Share Buy-back Mandate is granted by the Shareholders.

DIRECTORS’ UNDERTAKING

The Directors have undertaken to the Stock Exchange to exercise the powers of the Company to make buy-backs pursuant to the Share Buy-back Mandate in accordance with the Listing Rules and all applicable laws of Hong Kong.

EFFECT OF THE HONG KONG CODE ON TAKEOVERS AND MERGERS

If as a result of a buy-back of Shares by the Company, a Shareholder's proportionate interest in the voting rights of the Company increases, such increase will be treated as an acquisition for the purpose of the Hong Kong Code on Takeovers and Mergers (the "Takeovers Code"). As a result, a Shareholder, or a group of Shareholders acting in concert, depending on the level of increase of its or their shareholding, could obtain or consolidate control of the Company and become obliged to make a mandatory offer in accordance with Rules 26 and 32 of the Takeovers Code.

As at the Latest Practicable Date, the immediate controlling shareholder of the Company, CNOOC (BVI) Limited ("CNOOC BVI"), was recorded in the register required to be kept by the Company under section 336(1) of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Chapter 571 of the Laws of Hong Kong) (the "SFO") as having an interest in 28,772,727,268 Shares, representing approximately 64.44% of the issued share capital of the Company as at that date. CNOOC BVI is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Overseas Oil & Gas Corporation, Ltd. ("OOGC"), which is in turn a wholly-owned subsidiary of China National Offshore Oil Corporation ("CNOOC"). Accordingly, CNOOC BVI's interests are recorded as the interests of OOGC and CNOOC. OOGC also has a direct interest in five Shares. If the Share Buy-back Mandate is exercised in full, CNOOC BVI, OOGC and CNOOC will be regarded as being interested in approximately 71.60% of the reduced issued share capital of the Company. Regardless of such increase in shareholding, none of CNOOC BVI, OOGC or CNOOC would become obliged to make a mandatory offer for all securities not already owned by it or its concert parties under Rule 26 of the Takeovers Code.

PUBLIC FLOAT

The Directors do not have a present intention to exercise the Share Buy-back Mandate to such extent, causing the public float of the securities of the Company to fall below 25%.

LISTING RULES FOR SHARE BUY-BACKS**Reasons for Share Buy-backs**

The Directors consider that the Share Buy-back Mandate will provide the Company with the flexibility to make such buy-backs when appropriate and beneficial to the Company and its Shareholders. Such buy-backs may, depending on the market conditions and funding arrangements at the time, lead to an enhancement of the net asset value per Share and/or earnings per Share.

Source of Funds

Buy-backs must be made from funds legally available for such purpose in accordance with the Company's Articles, the Listing Rules and applicable laws and regulations in Hong Kong. The Companies Ordinance provides that that the amount paid in connection with a buy-back may only be made from the distributable profits of the Company and/or proceeds of a new issue of Shares made for the purpose of the buy-back to the extent permissible under the Companies Ordinance.

APPENDIX I EXPLANATORY NOTES TO BUY BACK MANDATE

On the basis of the consolidated financial position of the Company as at 31 December 2015 (being the date to which the latest published audited financial statements of the Company have been made up) and in particular the working capital position and gearing ratio of the Company and the number of Shares in issue, the Directors consider that there will not be a material impact on the working capital or the gearing position of the Company in the event that the Share Buy-back Mandate were to be carried out in full at any time during the proposed buy-back period. No buy-back would be made in circumstances that would have a material adverse impact on the working capital of the Company (as compared with the position disclosed in the latest published audited financial statements) unless the Directors consider that such buy-backs were in the best interests of the Company and its Shareholders as a whole.

SHARE BUY-BACK MADE BY THE COMPANY

No share buy-back had been made by the Company (whether on the Stock Exchange or otherwise) during the six months immediately prior to the Latest Practicable Date.

GENERAL

During each of the twelve months preceding the Latest Practicable Date, the highest and lowest closing prices for Shares on the Stock Exchange were as follows:

Month	Price Per Share	
	Highest	Lowest
	<i>HK\$</i>	<i>HK\$</i>
2015		
April	13.42	11.04
May	13.18	12.12
June	12.42	10.94
July	11.02	9.37
August	10.02	7.91
September	9.42	7.44
October	9.52	8.18
November	9.25	8.10
December	9.04	7.82
2016		
January	8.03	6.42
February	8.23	7.25
March (up to the Latest Practicable Date)	9.26	8.29

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting (the “AGM”) of the shareholders of CNOOC Limited (the “Company”) will be held on 26 May 2016, at 3:30 p.m. at Island Shangri-La Hotel Hong Kong, Pacific Place, Supreme Court Road, Central, Hong Kong, for the following purposes:

- A. As ordinary business, to consider and, if thought fit, pass with or without amendments, the following ordinary resolutions:
1. To receive and consider the audited financial statements together with the Report of the Directors and Independent Auditors’ Report thereon for the year ended 31 December 2015.
 2. To declare a final dividend for the year ended 31 December 2015.
 3. To re-elect Mr. Li Fanrong as an Executive Director of the Company:

Li Fanrong

Born in 1963, Mr. Li is a professor-level senior engineer. He obtained a B.S. degree majoring in oil production from Yangtze University in China, and received an MBA degree from the Business School of Cardiff University in United Kingdom. Mr. Li has been working in the oil and gas industry in China over 30 years. He joined CNOOC in 1984, and worked as Petroleum Engineer, later as Offshore Platform Supervisor, Operation Manager of CNOOC/AMOCO Joint Operating Group, Managing Director of CNOOC/STATOIL Joint Operating Group, Chief Representative of Joint Management Committee in CACT Operators Group, General Manager of Development and Production Department of the Company and President of CNOOC China Limited Shenzhen Branch. He served as an Assistant President of CNOOC from January 2009 to April 2010 and worked as President of CNOOC Energy Technology & Services Limited from February 2009 to April 2010. Mr. Li also served as Chairman and Director of CNOOC Southeast Asia Limited, being a subsidiary of the Company. He has served as Vice President of CNOOC since April 2010. He was appointed as President of the Company with effect from 16 September 2010, and was appointed as Chief Executive Officer of the Company with effect from 23 November 2011. He also serves as a Director of CNOOC China Limited and Chairman and Director of CNOOC International Limited, all being subsidiaries of the Company. He was appointed as the chairman of the board of Nexen Energy ULC with effect from 26 February 2013. Mr. Li was appointed as a Non-executive Director of the Company with effect from 24 May 2010 and was re-designated from Non-executive Director to Executive Director with effect from 16 September 2010.

Save as aforesaid, Mr. Li does not have any relationship with any other Director, senior management, substantial shareholder or controlling shareholder of the Company.

Mr. Li has no other interest in the Company's securities within the meaning of Part XV of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571) (the "SFO").

Under the service agreement between the Company and Mr. Li, the Company does not pay him any Director's fee. The Remuneration Committee will review the level of directors' emolument and make recommendation to the Board for adjustments if necessary. Mr. Li's appointment continued for a period of twelve months and would be renewed annually as determined by the Board or the shareholders of the Company, subject to three months' notice of termination by either party. Mr. Li is subject to the provisions of his service agreement and the retirement provisions in the Articles of the Association of the Company.

There is no other information required to be disclosed pursuant to any of the requirements of Rule 13.51(2)(h) – 13.51(2)(v) of the Listing Rules, nor are there any other matters to be brought to the attention of the Shareholders.

4. To re-elect Mr. Lv Bo as a Non-executive Director of the Company:

Lv Bo

Born in 1962, Mr. Lv is a senior economist and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Management from China University of Mining and Technology and an MBA degree from China Europe International Business School. Since 1985, he worked in the Ministry of Coal Industry, the Ministry of Energy and the Organization Department of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and served in a number of positions, including a Vice-Director-level official in the Personnel and Labor Department of the Ministry of Energy, Vice Director and Director of Economic and Technology Cadre Bureau of the Organization Department of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, Directors of the Fourth and Fifth Cadre Bureaus of the Organization Department of the Communist Party of China Central Committee. Mr. Lv joined China National Offshore Oil Corporation ("CNOOC") in 2002 and served as the Director of the Human Resources Department of CNOOC. In November 2006, Mr. Lv became the Assistant President of CNOOC. In April 2010, Mr. Lv was appointed as the Vice President of CNOOC. Since December 2012, he has also served as Chairman of the Board of CNOOC Energy Technology and Services Limited, a subsidiary of CNOOC. Mr. Lv was appointed as a Non-executive Director of the Company on 27 November 2013, and such appointment took effect from 1 January 2014.

Save as aforesaid, Mr. Lv does not have any relationship with any other Director, senior management, substantial shareholder or controlling shareholder of the Company.

Mr. Lv has no other interest in the Company's securities within the meaning of Part XV of the SFO.

Under the service agreement between the Company and Mr. Lv, the Company does not pay him any Director's fee. The Remuneration Committee will review the level of directors' emoluments and make recommendation to the Board for adjustments if necessary. Mr. Lv's appointment continued for a period of twelve months and would be renewed annually as determined by the Board or the shareholders of the Company, subject to three months' notice of termination by either party. Mr. Lv is subject to the provisions of his service agreement and the retirement provisions in the Articles of the Association of the Company.

There is no other information required to be disclosed pursuant to any of the requirements of Rule 13.51(2)(h) – 13.51(2)(v) of the Listing Rules, nor are there any other matters to be brought to the attention of the Shareholders.

5. To re-elect Mr. Chiu Sung Hong, who has already served the Company for more than nine years, as an Independent Non-executive Director of the Company:

Chiu Sung Hong

Born in 1947, Mr. Chiu received an LL.B. degree from the University of Sydney. He was admitted as a solicitor of the Supreme Court of New South Wales and the High Court of Australia. He has over 30 years' experience in legal practice and had been a director of a listed company in Australia. Mr. Chiu was the founding member of the Board of Trustees of the Australian Nursing Home Foundation and served as the General Secretary of the Australian Chinese Community Association of New South Wales. Mr. Chiu is also an Independent Non-executive Director of Tianda Pharmaceuticals Limited (formerly Yunnan Enterprises Holdings Limited, Tianda Holdings Limited) since April 2008, a company listed on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited. Mr. Chiu is also an Independent Non-executive Director of Bank of China (Australia) Limited (a wholly subsidiary of Bank of China Limited). Mr. Chiu was appointed as an Independent Non-executive Director of the Company with effect from 7 September 1999.

Mr. Chiu has served as an Independent Non-executive Director of the Company for more than nine years. For the reasons set out in the “Explanatory Statement Relating to Proposed General Mandates to Issue Shares and Buy Back Shares and Proposed Re-election of Directors”, the Board of the Company considers that Mr. Chiu remains independent for the purpose of the Listing Rules and the re-election of Mr. Chiu is in the best interests of the Company and shareholders as a whole.

Mr. Chiu does not have any relationship with any other Director, senior management, substantial shareholder or controlling shareholder of the Company.

Mr. Chiu has no other interest in the Company’s securities within the meaning of Part XV of the SFO.

Mr. Chiu has a formal letter of appointment with the Company. Mr. Chiu’s emoluments comprise an annual director’s fee of HK\$1,120,000 (before deduction of Hong Kong tax). The emolument of Mr. Chiu was determined by the Board with reference to perception of industry standards and prevailing market conditions. The Remuneration Committee will review the level of directors’ remuneration from time to time and make recommendation to the Board for adjustments if necessary. Mr. Chiu is subject to the provisions of the letter of appointment and the retirement provisions in the Articles of the Association of the Company.

There is no other information required to be disclosed pursuant to any of the requirements of Rule 13.51(2)(h) – 13.51(2)(v) of the Listing Rules, nor are there any other matters to be brought to the attention of the Shareholders.

6. To authorise the Board to fix the remuneration of each of the Directors.
7. To re-appoint Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu as the independent auditors of the Company and its subsidiaries, and to authorize the Board to fix the remuneration of the independent auditors.

B. As special business, to consider and, if thought fit, pass with or without amendments, the following resolutions as ordinary resolutions:

1. **“THAT:**

- (a) subject to paragraph (b) below, the exercise by the Directors during the Relevant Period (as hereinafter defined) of all the powers of the Company to buy back shares in the capital of the Company on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the “Stock Exchange”) or on any other exchange on which the shares of the Company may be listed and recognized by the Securities and Futures Commission of Hong Kong and the Stock Exchange for this purpose (“Recognized Stock Exchange”), subject to and in accordance with all applicable laws, rules and regulations and the requirements of the Listing Rules, or of any other Recognized Stock Exchange and the Articles of the Company, be and is hereby generally and unconditionally approved;
- (b) the aggregate number of shares of the Company which the Company is authorised to buy back pursuant to the approval in paragraph (a) above shall not exceed 10% of total number of issued shares of the Company as at the date of the passing of this resolution; and
- (c) for the purposes of this resolution:

“Relevant Period” means the period from the date of the passing of this resolution until whichever is the earlier of:

- (i) the conclusion of the next annual general meeting of the Company following the passing of this resolution; and
- (ii) the date on which the authority given under this resolution is revoked or varied by an ordinary resolution of the shareholders of the Company in general meeting.”

2. **“THAT:**

- (a) subject to the following provisions of this resolution, the exercise by the Directors during the Relevant Period (as hereinafter defined) of all the powers of the Company to issue, allot and deal with additional shares in the capital of the Company and to make or grant offers, agreements, options and similar rights to subscribe for or convert any security into shares in the Company (including bonds, notes, warrants, debentures and securities convertible into shares of the Company) which would or might require the exercise of such powers be and is hereby generally and unconditionally approved;

- (b) the approval in paragraph (a) above shall authorise the Directors during the Relevant Period to make or grant offers, agreements, options and similar rights to subscribe for or convert any security into shares in the Company (including bonds, notes, warrants, debentures and securities convertible into shares of the Company) which would or might require the exercise of such powers after the end of the Relevant Period;
- (c) the aggregate number of shares of the Company allotted or agreed conditionally or unconditionally to be allotted (whether pursuant to an option or otherwise) and any options, warrants or rights to be issued or granted by the Directors pursuant to the approval in paragraph (a) above, otherwise than pursuant to:
 - (i) a Rights Issue (as hereinafter defined);
 - (ii) an issue of shares pursuant to any specific authority granted by shareholders of the Company in general meeting, including upon the exercise of rights of subscription or conversion under the terms of any warrants issued by the Company or any bonds, notes, debentures or securities convertible into shares of the Company;
 - (iii) the grant of options and the exercise of any option granted under any share option scheme or similar arrangement for the time being adopted by the Company and/or any of its subsidiaries;
 - (iv) any scrip dividend or similar arrangement providing for the allotment of shares in lieu of the whole or part of a dividend on shares of the Company in accordance with the Articles of the Company; or
 - (v) any adjustment, after the date of grant or issue of any options, rights to subscribe for or convert any security into shares or other securities referred to above, in the price at which shares in the Company shall be subscribed, and/or in the number of shares in the Company which shall be subscribed, on exercise of relevant rights under such options, warrants or other securities, such adjustment being made in accordance with, or as contemplated by, the terms of such options, rights to subscribe or other securities,

shall not exceed 20% of the total number of issued shares of the Company as at the date of the passing of this resolution; and

(d) for the purposes of this resolution:

“Relevant Period” means the period from the date of passing of this resolution until whichever is the earlier of:

- (i) the conclusion of the next annual general meeting of the Company following the passing of this resolution; and
- (ii) the date on which the authority given under this resolution is revoked or varied by an ordinary resolution of the shareholders of the Company in general meeting.

“Rights Issue” means an offer of shares open for a period fixed by the Directors made to holders of shares whose names appear on the register of members of the Company on a fixed record date in proportion to their then holdings of such shares (subject to such exclusions or other arrangements as the Directors may deem necessary or expedient in relation to fractional entitlements or having regard to any restrictions or obligations under the laws of, or the requirements of, any recognized regulatory body or any stock exchange in or in any territory outside Hong Kong).”

3. “**THAT** subject to the passing of the resolutions numbered B1 and B2 as set out in the notice convening this meeting, the general mandate granted to the Board to issue, allot and deal with additional shares of the Company and to make or grant offers, agreements, options and similar rights to subscribe for or convert any security into shares in the Company pursuant to resolution numbered B2 set out in this notice be and is hereby extended by the addition to it of an amount representing the aggregate number of shares of the Company which are bought back by the Company pursuant to and since the granting to the Company of the general mandate to buy back shares in accordance with resolution numbered B1 set out in this notice, provided that such extended amount shall not exceed 10% of the total number of issued shares of the Company as at the date of the passing of this resolution.”

By Order of the Board
CNOOC Limited
Li Jiewen

Joint Company Secretary

Hong Kong, 6 April 2016

Registered office:
65th Floor,
Bank of China Tower,
1 Garden Road,
Hong Kong.

Notes:

1. Every member entitled to attend and vote at the above meeting (or at any adjournment thereof) is entitled to appoint one or more proxies to attend and vote on his behalf. A proxy need not be a shareholder of the Company.
2. In order to be valid, the form of proxy duly completed and signed in accordance with the instructions printed thereon, together with the power of attorney or other authority (if any) under which it is signed, or a copy of such authority notarially certified, must be completed and returned to the Company's registered office at 65th Floor, Bank of China Tower, 1 Garden Road, Hong Kong not less than 36 hours before the time appointed for the holding of the meeting or any adjournment thereof (as the case may be).
3. Completion and return of the form of proxy will not preclude a shareholder from attending and voting at the meeting or any adjournment thereof if the shareholder so desires and, in such event, the relevant form of proxy shall be deemed to be revoked.
4. Where there are joint registered holders of any shares, any one of such persons may vote at the above meeting (or at any adjournment of it), either personally or by proxy, in respect of such shares as if he/she were solely entitled thereto but the vote of the senior holder who tenders a vote, whether in person or by proxy, will be accepted to the exclusion of the vote(s) of the other joint holders and, for this purpose, seniority shall be determined by the order in which the names stand in the register of members of the Company in respect of the relevant joint holding.
5. With respect to resolution numbered B1, approval is being sought from shareholders for a general mandate to buy back shares to be given to the Board. The Board wish to state that they have no immediate plans to buy back any existing shares. The Explanatory Statement containing the information necessary to enable the shareholders to make an informed decision on whether to vote for or against the resolution to approve the buy back by the Company of its own shares, as required by the Listing Rules, is set out in a separate letter from the Company.
6. With respect to resolution numbered B2, approval is being sought from shareholders for a general mandate to issue, allot and deal with shares to be given to the Board. The Board wish to state that they have no immediate plans to issue or allot any new shares of the Company. Approval is being sought from the shareholders as a general mandate for the purpose of Section 141 of the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622 of the Laws of Hong Kong) and the Listing Rules.
7. With respect to resolution numbered B3, approval is being sought from shareholders for an extension of the general mandate granted to the Board to issue and allot shares by adding to it the number of shares purchased under the authority granted pursuant to resolution numbered B1.
8. Pursuant to Rule 13.39(4) of the Listing Rules, voting for all the resolutions set out in the notice of the annual general meeting will be taken by poll, except where the chairman, in good faith, decides to allow a resolution which relates purely to a procedural or administrative matter to be voted on by a show of hands.
9. The register of members of the Company will be closed from 23 May 2016 (Monday) to 26 May 2016 (Thursday) (both days inclusive), during which no transfer of shares in the Company will be registered. In order to qualify for attending the meeting, members are reminded to ensure that all instrument of transfer of shares accompanied by the relevant share certificate(s) must be lodged with the Company's registrar, Hong Kong Registrars Limited, at Shops 1712-1716, 17/F, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong for registration not later than 4:30 p.m. on 20 May 2016 (Friday).

After AGM, if the resolution of final dividend was passed, the register of members of the Company will be closed from 13 June 2016 (Monday) to 17 June 2016 (Friday) (both days inclusive), during which no transfer of shares in the Company will be registered. In order to qualify for the proposed final dividends, members are reminded to ensure that all instrument of transfer of shares accompanied by the relevant share certificate(s) must be lodged with the Company's registrar, Hong Kong Registrars Limited, at Shops 1712-1716, 17/F, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong for registration not later than 4:30 p.m. on 10 June 2016 (Friday).

10. With respect to resolutions numbered A3 to A5, the Company is exempt from the requirements of the Toronto Stock Exchange (the “TSX”) to adopt a majority voting policy requiring that each director must be elected by a majority of the votes cast with respect to his or her election at an uncontested meeting by virtue of the fact that the Company is majority controlled indirectly by CNOOC. The Company does not intend to adopt a majority voting policy at this time or for so long as CNOOC is the majority controlling shareholder, as majority approval of each such director is already assured.

In addition, the TSX requires that at each annual meeting of holders of listed securities, the board of directors of a listed issuer must permit security holders of each class or series to vote on the election of all directors to be elected by such class or series. Historically, the Company applied for and received a waiver of this requirement from the TSX on an annual basis. However, the TSX adopted an exemption from this requirement for Eligible International Interlisted Issuers in 2015. The Company qualifies as an Eligible International Interlisted Issuer. The Company has provided a notice to TSX pursuant to the requirement of TSX Company Manual for purposes of the director election process utilized by the Company in 2016 to rely on such exemption and anticipates providing similar such notices for each successive year.